497 Railroad traffic is lively: military trains pass Kaunas every few minutes. A single passenger train circulates daily between Vilnius and Kaunas, and one train operates every other day between Kaunas and Šeštokai.

499 505 Graveled highways go unrepaired, showing ever greater deterioration. Few ships and barges are seen on the Nemunas, as most of the fleet managed to escape to Denmark in 1944.

● 465 511 [435] All artisans were driven into "artels": excessive taxes did the trick.

Wages are low and working hours are long. Prices are twice as high as in Moscow: one week's wages is spent on a kilogram of butter. In 1945 butter was transported from Lithuania to Moscow in an "airlift operation," by planes. The Muscovites liked Lithuanian butter—and butter is still exported, depriving the Lithuanians of their diet. Numerous deductions are withheld from wages—up to one half, including "voluntary" subscriptions to state loans, etc.

In consequence of the meager pay, every worker attempts to steal whatever he can, and to sell the stolen products in the black market. Lately the bureaucracy—itself most guilty of embezzlement—began penalizing the workers with harsh penalties. Nevertheless, the practice of stealing is universal, and the Russian officials set the pace. Whenever the so-called "exemplary state farms" call for volunteers to assist in planting or harvesting—there are enough volunteers who anticipate a chance to "hook something."

The morale of factory workers is as low as that of the farmers. The living conditions steadily deteriorate. Discontent over "stakhanovite efficiency," long working hours, low pay, lack of clothing, etc. is widespread. In the early part of 1948 the regime abandoned its choicest proffer to workers—the bait of appointment [554] to managing posts. Today, there is a tendency to build up cadres of skilled specialists, a privileged caste of people in uniform—even telegraph post climbers wear uniforms. . . .

Moral Situation

000 Symbols of Russian "culture" and ways of life universally exhibited by the "masters and victors" are—violence, profanity, drunkenness, thievery, deceit and raggedness.

685 Any criminal tendencies among the natives were drastically curbed by the underground authorities. Felonies were penalized by death sentences—and the sentences were carried out. But thieving is uncontrollable in the factories and in the supply services.

273 186 The Russians and their bootlickers revel in continual drunkenness. Vodka is the universal form of bribe. Unfortunately, the brutal conditions of life affected the Lithuanians to a certain degree, too. People are tempted to forget bitter reality for a half hour at least. The resistance movement continually wages a press propaganda against alcoholism ("Don't be like a Russian!"). For strictly practical considerations of maintaining a supply service for its armed units, the resistance movement repeatedly issued orders banning home distilling and any waste of the much needed grains. The Russians, however, pursue a definite policy aimed at demoralizing the natives and weakening their moral standards. Vodka is dumped on the market in unlimited unrationed qualities. But — the Church is still permitted to preach against the evils of drunkenness.

4: Kublitzky G-4, 5 (no date) 1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

Wages in Lithuania [1]

466 The average working day in the manufacturing industries in Lithuania is 8 hours and the working week 48 hours. The minimum working week in factories is 4 days as provided by the Government regulations.

● 465 462 The average daily wages of unskilled industrial workers on July 31, 1937, are shown below, by sex.

	Males (lits) [1]	*Females (lits)*
Chemical industry	7.60	----
Hides and skins	4.25	3.15
Textiles	5.20	4.05
Lumber	5.55	4.55
Paper and printing	7.35	4.50
Foodstuffs	4.50	3.95
Electricity, gas, and water	7.25	----

[1] Average exchange rate of lit in February 1938 and December 1938—about 17 cents.

The average daily wages of skilled workers amounted to 8.75 lits. The daily wages of a seasonal farm hand on May 1, 1938, amounted to 2.40 lits for a man and 1.80 lits for a woman, including board, and 3.35 lits and 2.50 lits, respectively, without board.

Farm hands are hired at Christmas time for 1 year and receive wages in cash and in kind, in conformity with an agreement. The yearly wages of farm hands during 1938 are given below. The farm hands are also provided with free clothing, board, and lodging.

	Total yearly wages (lits)	*Cash wages (lits)*
Male hands	332	310
Female hands	263	243
Junior male hands	220	203
Junior female hands	178	162
Shepherds	118	101

Daily wages in the peat-extraction industry average from 5.50 lits to 8.50 lits for unskilled males and from 3.00 lits to 5.00 lits for unskilled females. Machinists receive from 7.50 lits to 9.00 lits per day.

465 The following are the monthly wages paid in Kaunas by the Railway Administration of the Lithuanian Ministry of Communications. Wages in the provincial districts are 10 percent lower.

	Lits per month		*Lits per month*
Locomotive engineers:		Firemen	277.00
First class	519.00	Conductors:	
Second class	476.00	First class	280.00
Third class	415.00	Second class	240.00
Assistant locomotive engineers:		Third class	180.00
First class	337.00	Station masters:	
Second class	314.00	First class	540.00
		Second class	450.00

[1] Report of Vladimir Kublitzky, clerk of American Legation at Kaunas.

4: Kublitzky G-4, 5 (no date) 1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

Station masters—Con.	*Lits per month*
Third class	380. 00
Fourth class	340. 00
Fifth class	300. 00
Signalmen	200. 00

Baggage agents:	*Lits per month*
First class	300. 00
Second class	280. 00
Third class	240. 00
Unskilled workers	[1] 4. 50–6. 00

[1] Per day

Monthly wages paid to Kaunas municipal autobus employees are given below. Wages in the Provinces are 10 to 15 percent lower.

	Lits per month
Drivers	250. 00–270. 00
Conductors	210. 00–230. 00
Mechanics:	
First class	300. 00
Second class	260. 00
Third class	200. 00

The figures below show the wages per hour of specified classes of skilled workmen in the building trades throughout Lithuania:

	Lits per hour
Bricklayers, first class	1.50
Bricklayers, second class	1.40
Electricians, ironmongers, and carpenters	1.60–1.70

An unskilled male laborer receives from 5.00 lits to 6.00 lits per day and a female laborer, from 3.00 lits to 4.00 lits per day.

The following wages and salaries are paid to skilled workers in the printing and publishing trades:

	Lits per month
Linotypists	350–550
Engravers	350
Assistant engravers	300
Managers, printing room	275
Compositors	250

	Lits per day
Mechanics	9
Stereotypists	9
Stone polishers	5
Bookbinders	5

Payment for overtime in general amounts to not less than 25 percent of the basic daily wages, provided the rate has not been set forth in the agreement concluded between the employer and employees.

No allowances for dependents or payments in kind are made in Lithuania, except in the case of farm labor. Free housing is given sometimes to watchmen and to one or two skilled indispensable workmen in industrial enterprises. Every laborer after having worked 1 year under agreement is entitled to 12 days' holiday with pay.

In conformity with an amendment to the income-tax law enacted October 9, 1935, a tax on earnings has to be paid by all persons except State employees. This tax varies from 2.00 lits for workmen, either single or married, earning from 101 lits to 130 lits per month, to 53.40 lits for single workers earning from 591 lits to 600 lits. The rates are considerably lower for married persons with a family, the reduction from the single rate amounting to as high as 50 percent where the family consists of 7 or more persons. The income tax for

4: Kubilitzky G-4, 5 (no date) 1939 RB5 Lithuanians RB5

651 individuals residing in the rural parts of the country is slightly higher, due to the lower standard of living.

745 An employees' sickness-insurance fund was created in 1928 to
466 provide for medical treatment, especially of the poorer classes. Mem-
456 bership in this organization is compulsory for all workers and employees, except farm laborers and State employees. Monthly contributions, equal in amount, are made by both the employer and the employee, according to wage classes, of which there are six. For wage class I (daily wage, 4 lits; weekly wage, 24 lits; and monthly wage, 100 lits) the monthly payment to the sick fund is 5.40 lits. The payments for each wage class are progressively higher, until for class VI (daily wage, 12.01 lits and over; weekly wage, 73 lits and over; and monthly wage, 301 lits and over) the payment to the sick fund is 21.60 lits. The maximum benefit allowed ranges from 3 lits for wage class I to 14 lits for wage class VI.

An additional amount (10 percent of the monthly payments made to the sick fund) is contributed in equal shares by the employer and the employee to the Labor Chamber.

647 All State employees contribute 6 percent of their wages to a pension
456 fund. Furthermore, from 4.5 percent to 18.73 percent of the wages of
745 a married State employee are deducted for the special fund created to balance the budget, the deduction of a single employee varing between 11.7 percent to 24.53 percent. These deductions apply to State employees residing in Kaunas, Klaipeda, the Klaipeda Territory, and abroad. The deductions made from wages of State employees residing in the rural parts of the country vary from 9.5 percent to 23.73 percent for married, and from 15.3 percent to 29.53 percent for single persons. These rates became effective on April 1, 1937.

651 Tax deductions from wages amount to 10 percent; however, a
●745 certain amount is exempt from taxation. In the case of a single worker the exemption applies to all wages under 36.50 lits per week. Ten percent of the amount exceeding 36.50 lits per week is subject to taxation and is determined in accordance with the family status of the worker. The result of this, in practice, is that married workers with one child do not pay taxes.

456 Contributions for social, sickness, accident, old-age, and disability insurance amount in all to 9 percent, 4½ percent of which are paid by the employer and the remaining 4½ percent by the worker.

* * *

432 A particularly marked advance is shown by larger undertakings with 50 or more employees*), which represent wholesale industry proper. The following figures illustrate this:

I. Undertakings with 5—49 Employees.

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937
Total number of undertakings	969	955	1 015	1 010	1 020	1 038	1 034	1 174
Total number of employees	11 473	11 927	11 402	10 906	11 033	11 072	11 598	13 206

II. Undertakings with 50 and more Employees.

Total number of undertakings	82	94	90	98	98	98	101	125
Total number of employees	11.023	12.433	11.844	13.479	15.123	16.298	18.650	23.387

On the basis of the foregoing figures we can reckon that the medium-sized undertakings during the period from 1930 to 1937, in respect of their total number grew by 15.9%, and in respect of the number of employed personnel, by 15.1%, while the large-scale undertakings in the same time showed an increase of 52.4% in their number and 112.2% in the number of employees.

● 465 The development of industrial activity is also illustrated by the growth of the total amount of wages paid out. The following figures relate to the months of June and July (in thousands of litas):

1931.VI.	1932.VI.	1933.VI.	1934.VI.	1935.VII.	1936.VII.	1937.VII.
3 636	2 991	2 918	2 927	3 011	3 285	4 237

Compared with the index of the cost of living minimum, these tables show, notwithstanding the decrease of nominal

*) In the „number of employees", the promoters, the workers, and the officials are included.

465 wages, a rise in real wages of approximately 12% since 1931. In various individual branches, moreover, the wages standards of qualified workers were raised not only in 1937 but also in 1935 and 1936, which the above quoted average figures do not indicate, owing to the preponderance of unqualified workers, as a result of the frequent engagement of new employees.

* * *

464 433 The internal structure of Lithuanian industry in respect of the number of undertakings and the total number of employed workers in separate industrial branches are shown by the following Table No. 1.

288 433 464 On the basis of these statistics we may conclude that the largest number of workers, viz., 20.6% of all industrial workers in Lithuania to-day are employed in the textile industry. On an average, a staff of 88 workers pertains to one textile factory.

The first place in respect of the number of employed workers has, however, been reached by the textile industry in recent years, i. e. since 1935. Among all industrial branches in Lithuania it also shows the most intensive development. In spite of the crisis, the number of employed in the textile concerns since 1928 has steadily grown and in comparison with 1928 its position in 1937 had more than quadrupled (+317.5%).

This high level of the employed reflects, however, only the maximum utilization of labour capacity. Thus in 1937 the textile industry was the only branch that employed three shifts, since according to the number of undertakings, viz., 74, it stands far behind other branches.

313 433 464 In the second place stands the timber industry with 16.9% of the total number of workers and 17.6% of the number of undertakings. The size of the staffs rose by 51,1% during the period from 1928 to 1937, the most noteworthy increase having taken place in 1937.

262 433 464 In the third place follows the foodstuffs and luxury goods industry with 16.4% of the total number of workers. According to the number of undertakings (353 concerns or 28.3%), it is, however, entitled to the first place. The total number of the staffs in 1937 in comparison with 1928 shows an increase of 35.4%, which took place during the last three years. During